### AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON.

THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22, 1854.

Mr. Tooms, (whig) of Ga., reported the judiciary bill ning the salaries of the Judges of the Supreme and Dis-rict Courts of the United States, and of the Orphans

Mr. Sunga, (dem.) of La., moved that the bill proving for the removal of the obstructions at the southpassage of the Mississippi river be made the special r of the day for the 9th of January. Agreed to. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUBBOAY.

Mr. Handers, (whig) of N. C., suggested that as Sens-ers re-sterday understood that the meeting of the Senate day was pro forms, on account of Monday being Christmas, it was not fair to transact business; when upon the Senate adjourned to Tuesday next.

House of Representatives.

Mr. Housrox, (dem.) or Ala., from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department, and for the sansportations of mails by ocean steamers and otherwise, 'or the year ending June 30, 1856. Referred to Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union. LIGHTHOUSE AT CAPE BACK.

Commerce, reported a resolution with the view of the better preservation of life. It authorizes the President of the United States to open a correspondence with the British government, or any one of her dependencies, in order to procure the erection of a first class lightnouse at Cape Race, Newfoundland, the United States to pay

Mr. Curring, (dem.) of N. Y., briefly advocated the cresolution, saying that great loss of life and immense travel combine to render its passage necessary. Mr. Sarin, (dem.) of Va., opposed the resolution, re-

garding it as the commencement of a system to build

dighthouse at Cape Race, where lines of steamers start and arrive; it was necessary for the safety of naval and

Mr. McMuller, (dem.) of Va., opposed the resolution, regarding the proposition as novel and unprecedented.
Mr. FULLER mentioned two cases where appropriations have been made by Congress to build lighthouses outside our limits on the Canada shore.
Mr. CHANDER, (whig) of Pa. favored the resolution, saying the end sanctified the means; whatever is right cannot be commenced too early.
The resolution was passed—seventy-eight against fifty two.

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REPORT OF THE COAST SURVEYS.

THE SPEARME laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, covering the report of the Surper nature of the Coast Surveys for the year 1854. Ordered to be printed.

Mr. ROBBINA, (dem.) of Pa., offered a resolution, which was reterred to the Committee on Printing, providing for the printing of ten thousand extra copies of the report—sive thousand for the use of the members of the House, and the certainder for the Coast Survey office—to be bound in a quarto form with the plates.

COURTS IN TIME DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The House then passed the bill reorganizing the courts the District of Columbia, and reforming and improving the lews thereof, by a vote of yeas 118, mays 35.

The Blowse then went into committee on private bills, and after passing one, adjourned till Tuesday.

## Our Washington Correspondence.

Washington, Dec. 21, 1854.
Will for the Relief of the Texas Gredstors—Capt. Gibson's
Claim against the Dutch Government—Mr. R. G. Scott
and the Octend Conference—Mr. Keitt on the Know

aboult arise to change the disposition of members, it is evident that after the first of January a good deal of

there will seek investments in the United States. It therefore becomes a matter of no little moment that

Katemates of the Postmaster General-The Court of Private Claims-District of Columbia Matters, &c., &c.

of New York, at \$100,000 a year for each ship.

For two steamships from New York, by Cowes to Havre, contract as above, at \$75,000 a year for each ship.

For transportation of mails from Charleston to Havana, per annum.

Over transportation of mail across the 1sthmus 150,000 for domestic mail transportation.

5,921,938 for compensation of Postmasters.

2,150,000 for compensation of clerks in post offices.

611,500 for miscellaneous items.

Here we have a call for nearly ten millions of dollars for mail service, and that, too, exclusive of the Collins and Aspinwall steamers. The fact of these steamers not being included in the estimates from the Post Office Department, has led some into the arror of supposing the department, by this omission, intended a condemnation of those lines. This is not the fact. The estimates for these lines come from the Navy, and not from the Post Office Department. Yet I believe Judge tampbell will decline taking the responsibility of making any contract or arrangement with these steamers, and will very properly turn them over to Congress, with a hom the present contracts were made.

The Senale pesterday continued the debate on the boil e-tablishing the Board of Claims. The Select Committee reported a substitute, making it a court instead of a simple board, and fixing necessarily, the term of office "during good behavior." If Congress make it a court, the constitution of the United States will fix the feare of office. But this proposition and with little

# The New Law Department. IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES. A HILL ISTABLISH A DEPARTMENT OF LAW TO PRESCRIBE CENTAIN

measenger, together with all the floods and papers of that office, shall be, and they are hereby, transferred to the Department of Law, as a bureau of that department, and placed under the superintendence of the Attorney-

and placed under the superintendence of the Attorney-General.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the supervisory power now exercised by the decretary of the Interior over the accounts of the marshals, clerks, and other officers of the courts of the United States, shall be exercised by the Attorney-General, who shall sign all requisitions for the advance or payment of money out of the Treasury, on estimates or accounts, subject to the same adjustment or control now exercised on similar estimates or accounts by the accounting and comptrolling officers of the Treasury.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That if the President of the United States should, in his discretion, require the attorney General, or other person, to attend to the interests of the government in any court of the United States in the district of Columbia, or in any State Court, there shall be made to the Attorney General, or other person, to be paid out of the judicial fund, such allowance as the President shall deem reasonable and just.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That in case of the death, absence from the seat of government, or inability of the Attorney General, it shall be lawful for the President of the United States, in case he shall think it necessary, to authorize any person at his discretion to perform the duties of said office until a successor be appointed, or until such absence or inability shall cease.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That the commissions of all officers of the United States shall be made out, recorded, and when necessary, countersigned and sealed, in the department under the supervision of the heads of which those officers may respectfully be required to act, or to which they belong.

SEC. 6. And be it further enacted, That as soon as may be practicable after the passage of this act, it chall be the duity of the first Auditor to audit and adjust all accounts, disbursements, claims, and expenditures, of whatsoever nature and description, that may arise or be unsettled in the Department of the Navy;

# The Twelve Belgian Paupers Confined in the Tombs. The twelve Belgians who were arrested last Wedne.

The twelve Belgians who were arrested last Wedne. If day on board the packet ship Rochamban, on her arrival from Antwerp, on the supposition that they had been convicted, but pardoned felons, shipped from their native country by the government, are still in the Tombs awaiting judicial examination of the facts. This was to have taken place yesterday forencon, at the police court, before Justice Begart. At twelve o'clock, noon, Sergeant Bell, of the Mayor's office, who made the arrest, attended, but Captain Stackpole, who commanded the Rochambeau, was not then in court. The captain

the Rochambeau, was not then in court. The captain and his mate came in after some time, when the hour of three o'clock in the afternoon was set dywn as a proper time for the inquiry to commence.

Judge Bogart took his seat on the bench at the last named hour; but up to 5 o'clock—the time of adjournment—neither Mr. Bell. Capt. Stackpole, his mate, the Pelgian Consul, nor any other person at all conserned in the matter, appeared, when the case was further adjourned to this morning. In the meantime the men are deprived of their liberty, and subject to the same prison rules as if really convicted of a crime here. A French

#### THE WRECKS.

anded Ship St. Patrick-Interesting ent of her Surgeon-How, her Pa

stranding of the packet ship St. Patrick on the Jersey shore, two miles from Barnegat, and about four from the beach on which the steamship Empire City went crew. Every effort was made to get her off, but having failed in this, several shots were fired and rockets distention of aix fishing smacks, which immediately steered towards her, and, as we have already stated, took her

Captain Keeney, of the Albert Haley, one of the smacks, said that they remained by the St. Patrick the even the women were not exempt from the cruel treat-ment. He was obliged to interfers in one instance, when he seized a gaff-hook, and threatened to strike onof the crew if he did not desist from beating a pas-senger. Another sailor would not allow a woman to get sengers were set to work in helping to un-load the vessel, and because some could not understand the directions, they were kicked and cuffed about the deck, and if they ventured to com-plain, they only received a repetition of the same treat-ment. It is reported that their baggage and on any conditions, and none of them would willingly have remained behind with their baggage. There were,

to express our opinion of the conduct of the St. Patrick's crew, if all the charges against them be true, it is with pleasure we refer to the kind treatment do to alleviate their sufferings was done. They were all at the foot of Fulton street, East river. Several are in furnishing it, as they are in a state of extre

sent lying over at Brooklyn.

At five o'clock on Thursday evening the St. Patrick

not arrived. It is feared that the easterly wind of Thursday night and yesterday may have injuriously af-

fected her.

Dr. Macfarlan, the surgeon of the ship, has kindly furnished us with the following statement of the disas-

DR. MACPARLAN'S STATEMENT.

This ressel went ashore at Long Beach, below Barnegat, at about six o'clock on the evening of the 19th in stant, during a dense fog, and immediately after striking she began to thump very hard, when immediate measures were taken to get her afteat by the crew striking she began to thump very hard, when immediate measures were taken to get her affeat by the crew and passengers, who were all employed in throwing the cargo overboard, and trying to work her off with her sails. During the night there was much suffering and anxiety on board; the guss were fired and rockets were let off for aid and assistance. On the following morning, at about 3 o'clock, the ship's head paid off rapidly, then braced the yards around but she again brought up, heading south by east, made all sail trying to work her off, still throwing cargo overboard, the wind blowing fresh on her quarter. The passengers and luggage were then sent forward to lighten the ship aft, but she was making water so fast that all efforts to get her off were of no avail. At daylight step were taken to land the passengers by means of the ship's boats, and one boat swamped immediately after she was lowered; the lifeboat was then sent out from the ship with fifteen passengers on board, in charge of the chief officer, Mr. Mount, but when she had proceeded about one hundred yards from the ship the people on shore made signals to them not to attempt a landing, when they immediately returned to the ship. A line was finally conveyed to the shore and made fast to a stake, but the surf running very high and the weather being so intensely cold, it was impossible to manage the boat or to land the passengers. Signals for assistance were then made to the people on shore, when several fishing schooners came out, anchored near by and to aftend on the ship. The passengers were finally all safely conveyed on board of the schooners and sent up to the city.

From the time the ship went ashore up to the time the passengers were safely landed, Captain Whitman and his officers were untiring in their exertions to not only save the ship, but render the passengers as comfortable as the circumstances would admit, and to whom too much credit cannot be swarded for their skill as seamen and hospitality as men.

The ship now lies horadside on the

Cupt. Whitman to teh owner:—
ON BOARD SRIP ST. PATRICK,
LONG BRACH, N. J., Dec. 21, 1854

ON BOARD SRIP ST. PATRICK,

LONG BEACH, N. J., Dec. 21, 1854

David Ogden, Esq.:—

I suppose ere this you have been informed of my misfortune in losing the good ship St. Patrick, an Long Beach, a little south of Barnegat, the particulars of which I must see you to explain. I hope I have done right in making use of several fishing vessels to transport the passengers to New York and to attend on the hip. I have to day unbent all the sails and sent down topgallant yards, as I think there is little hopes of ever getting her off—at all events, unless assistance with stram pumps are sent immediately. My crew are getting dissatisfied, and I send them to New York by the schooner Comstock, with Doctor Macfarlan, who is able to tell you all the particulars. I shall stay by the ship as long as prudent. The wreek masters are here, but I have not given up the ship. Yours truly.

STEPHEN WHITMAN, Master of ship St. Patrick.

The manifest of the ship was also received at the

The manifest of the ship was also received at the owner's yesterday. The following is a copy —

The manifest of the ship was also received at the owner's yesterday. The following is a copy:—

CARGO OF THE ST. PATRICK.

265 tons coal, to New York Gas Company.

467 bars iron, to W. Outhout & Brs., N. Y.

798 bars and 223 bundles iron, to E. G. Ripley & Co.,

N. Y.

235 bundles sheet iron, to Naylor & Co., N. Y.

271 bundles sheet iron, to order.

240 bundles sheet iron, to Smith & Hegeman.

142 bars and 192 bundles bar iron, W. Outhout & Brs.

383 bundles wire rods, Naylor & Co.

9 cases moise. Rarlife & Hrown: 15 do; 3 do.

8 casks hardware, Hy. Dickinson.

40 bayes terne plates, to order.

70 casks bottled ale, & wrapped bundles and 5 coils wire, 10 casks cream tartar, 1889 bars iron, 900 sacks self, and 3 dozen mats, to Harclay & Livingston.

9 cases chains, 90 fathoms chain, and I wood stock anchor, to Harbeck & Co.

806 bundles heep tron, to order.

507 bars and 406 bundles bar iron, to order.

24 casks skivers and 4 boxes leather, Abm. Bell & Sons 134 hampers potators, Joseph Sands, Esq. I crate carthenware, C. C. Leigh, Esq.

41 crates and 5 casks carthenware, W. Doughty.

70 bundles iron wire to order.

60 bundles har iron, J. W. Carmer & Co.

7 cases steel, Revns & Mead.

300 bundles har iron, Jaylor & Co.

25 bars iron, Henderson & Burgor.

600 bundles bar iron, J. W. Carmer & Co.

7 chains, Ed. H. Jacot.

860 bars iron, Henderson & Burgor.

600 bundles bar iron, Jaylor Co.

20 bundles bar iron, Jaylor Co.

21 bars and 477 b ndles iron, Ctarles Congresse & S. n.;

22 bars and 477 b ndles iron, Ctarles Congresse & S. n.;

22 bars and 477 b ndles iron, Ctarles Congresse & S. n.;

25 bars and 477 b ndles iron, Ctarles Congresse & S. n.;

The bark Almeids arrived yesterday from Apalachi-cola. On the 7th inst., in a thick fog, drifted ashore on the northwest part of Matanilla Reef in company with a large ship, painted black, supposed cotton loaded. The A. was got off without any damage. The ship, when last seen, was still ashore, and heeled over six streaks.

her, foremast, bowsprit, and jibboom standing, mainmast gone five feet from the deck, foretopmast by the cap, foreyard gone in the slings, starboard anchor lying over the rail, with chain bent, two ropes hanging from the jibboom, having apparently been used to lower peo-

LOSS OF THE SHIP SUNNY SIDE.

The despatch from Columbia, published in our yesterday's edition reporting the loss of the ship' Sunny South,"
was incorrect, the telegraph having made a mistake in
the name of the vessel. It should have been the ship 'Sunny Side'', which left the bar below New Orleans on he 22d ultimo, with a cargo of 2,050 bales of cotton for Liverpool, and was wrecked, as already stated, off Bahama Banks, on the 28th ultime. [The Sunny 8tde was built in Williamsburg in 1854 by

\$60,000, and insured in Boston.—ED. HERALD.] FEARS FOR THE SAFETY OF THE STEAMSHIP NAUTILUS. NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 21, 1854.

Great fears are entertained for the safety of the steam

hip Nautilus, which left Brazes on the 4th for this port. It is thought that some accident must have happened to her during the heavy gale which occurred on the night of the 4th.

Nonrolk, Dec. 22, 1854.

The ship Adrian, Hunter, from Liverpool for New York, put into Hampton Roads on Wednesday, in a leaky

### THE PILGRIM FEAST.

Annual Celebration of Forefathers' Day— Dinner of the New England Society at the Astor House—Speech of Scuator Seward on Know Nothingism, &c., &c. The New England Society of the city of New York, celebrated its forty-eighth anniversary by a public din-

sish, on Thursday evening. The whole celebration was in commemoration of the two hundred and thirty-fourth suniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth,

decorated for the occasion, by Mr. James Stetson. The pillars, cornices, and spaces between the windows, were

The tables were tastefully arranged, and among the pieces of ornamental pastry were representations of Daniel Webster, the Plymouth Monument, the Pioneer's House, the Landing of the Pilgrims, and a statue of Washington.
Mr. Mosm H. Grunnell, President of the Society, oc-

cupied the chair, supported on the right hand by the orator of the day, (W. M. Evarts,) and on the left by Senator Seward. Several representatives of other city Major Sprague, U. S. A., was present. The company

on the Maine law plan. After full justice had been done to the catables and imbibables, the Rev. Dr. Bacon

1. The Day we celebrate—The Morning Star of univer-sal freedom. (Received with three cheers.)
2. The President of the United States. (Nine cheers—broke down on the fourth.) Music—Hail Columbia.
3. The State of New Yord. (Three cheers.) Music—March from Norwa March from Norma.

4. The City of New York and its Judiciary. (Three

. Ane State of New York. (Three cheers.) Music—March from Norms.

4. The City of New York and its Judiciary. (Three cheers.) Music—Home, Sweet Home.

5. The Orator of the Day—His learning and eloquence prove that he nobly sustains the weight of the honored name he inherits. (Six cheers.) Music—The Veterans, March.

6. The Clergy of New England—True representatives of those who "for the glory of God and advancement of the Christian faith," planted the "first civil body politic" in New England.

7. The Connecticut Colony—It possessed the first written Constitution of organized government ever known in the political history of the world; its liberties through every peril have remained unbroken. (Cheers.) Music—"Yankee Doodle."

8. The Common Schools of New England—Next to the Pulpit, the hope of the country. (Cheers.)

9. The Senate of the United States—A Congress of independent sovereignties—May its action be such as to insure the union and prosperity of the body politic. Music—"Sound the Trumpet"—Puritani. (Nine cheers.)

10. The first Sabbath of the first Worshippers on the soil of New England—The fervent prayers of that day were the carmest of the prosperity and success of the colony.

11. The Bar of New England—Its members have been at once the foremost champions of civil liberty, and the tirmest supporters of constituted law.

12. The Pross—May it always be a Herald on the Tritanc of the Times, and enjoy such liberty that it may Dispatch by Express & Messenger in the Post of a Courier to the Sun.

13. Our Sister Charitable Societies—Heaven-born, (charity being their sim.) they are only rivals in doing the greatest good to the greatest number.

14. The Army and New England—Their grace and beauty bind us to the easth, their purity and truth point us to the skies.

During the reading of the toasts the space in the rear of the guests' table was filled with ladies, who paid the most exemplary tribute to all the speeches—good and

of the guests' table was filled with ladies, who paid the most exemplary tribute to all the speeches-good and

During the reading of the toasts the space in the lear of the guests' table was filled with ladies, who paid the most exemplary tribute to all the speeches—good and bad, long and short.

Hon. C. P. Daly responded to the fourth toast. It did not become him, he said, to speak of the judiciary of the city of New York. It would be better to speak of the judiciary of New England. If he were to single out the particular point in New England character, he would take the submission of the people to the decrees of their judiciary. They obey the law, not from fear or force of habit, but because it is the law. (Applause.) In no other country is this to be seen. In Great Britain justice is surrounded with show to make it imposing; but in New England no such show is required. The contor of last evening spoke of the noble heritage of the common law. What that heritage has done for New England—for the Revolution and for the Republic, cannot be estimated. The civil law is like a beautiful temple whose fixed proportions cannot be changed. The common law may not be as perfect a system, but it is more like human nature. The civil law has written on its front the word authority—the individual is nothing. In the common law, on the cottary, the individual is front the word authority—the individual is mothing. In the common law, on the cottary, the individual is everything. These facts were well understood in New England. They declared in 1840 that no man should suffer in nie person and property, unless by a known law established, and when the known law is defective them by the law of God. And later, in the Senate, John Adams said that if he had supposed before the Revolution that the common law would not have been the har of the United States he would never lave drawn his seried in the coatest. Judge Baly concluded by giving.

The roots of the Common Law —Transplanted to New England soil, they have produced hardler and more fruitful plants than in the mother earth.

W. M. Evaurs, Esq., responded to the fifth toast. He disclaimed any

The New England Society of the City of New York—Its principles, its purposes, sure pledges that the great tide of our nation's wealth and prosperity shall ever have commingied with it the pure waters that flow from the Plymouth Rock.

Mr. Ggannal. asid—Gentlemen, I have just received a dispatel from our friends who are celebrating this day in Charleston, South Carolina. (Applause.) It reads thus.

dional liberty, which brought about the revolution, and established this republic. Let this spirit still be maintained. Let the common schools preserved and improved, if possible. Let the Bible of our fathers be still a text book in our common schools, and may it be many fewer to be an our common schools, and may it be many fewer to the common schools of the common schools of New England.

What has been a character of the state of New York, responded to the ninh regular toast. He was received with great cheering, and when the applause had subsided, he said—Torbear, greatlemen, forbear. I am notice that the said—Torbear, greatlemen, forbear, fan another than the said—Torbear, greatlemen, forbear, fan another than the said—Torbear, greatlemen, if you do not be meet frowns and repreaches, and I am ergared to them in the said and present for I think more from my heart than I do from my mind, then help the said and the faults of my heart (for I think more from my heart than I do from my mind, lead me to believe that the Fresident of like the Fresident of the Cinted States ought so to conduct the affairs of this government, in conjunction with other departments, that liberty may be safe and the Senate, like the Fartia. The said and the said of the said and the said of my mind, lead me to believe that the Fresident of like the Fartia and the said of the said and the said of my mind the said and the said of my mind the said and the said of my my mind the said and the said of my my mind the said and the said of my my mind the said and the said of the said and the said of the said and th

audience for the compliment paid to the St. George's Society, pleasantly alluding to Mr. Deming's speech, be said that Connecticut did not invent desmocracy; but, said Mr. Young, if I had been living in the time of the Brother Jorathan, so help me God I would have been a Brother Jorathan, so help me God I would have been a Brother Jorathan, so help me God I would have been a Brother Jorathan, so help me God I would have been a Brother Jorathan, so help me God I would have been a that my blood runs inster when I heard of the Charise Oak at Hartford, than when I read of the royal oak where one of our monarchs once found sheiter, (applause,) and that is a pretty liberal admission for a man who stands where I do at present. (Applause). But I have heard with some pain a flying rumor, first whispered and gradually becoming more apparent, that the sympathies of this country do not go with England in the present war. I should not intrude this matter upon you if there was any question at issue between the two countries at the present time. I thank God that I know of none. (Loud applause.) In the North and East you have just seen the finishing touch given to one of these treaties made in accordance with the progression of the age, and an acknowledgment of the rights of one country by another. In the South, where there has been a hornet's next for small politicians, we ase that the great king of commerce has stepped in and settied a long existing difficulty. Although you may not all admire the manner of its settlement, yet if a large amount of territory is to be settled by voluntary immigration and erected into an American colony, I am glad to hear it. (Applause.) The Russian war is question of sympathy altogether, and in asking fer your sympathy we are not like the Kentucky hunter—we have the best reason for knowing that you will not help the bear, for it is not your interest so to do. (Lond laughter and applause.) No country has so large a claim on your sympathy we are not like the Kentucky hunter—we have been the first

an appropriate response, soon after which, it being near one o'clock, the company separated.

Naval Intelligence.

The African Squarkon.—The United States frigate Constitution was at Porto Grande Oct. 23d, having returned from an active cruise along the north and south coast, as far as Loango, looking into all the ports usually frequented by American resuels. At Monrovia a and accident occurred. In lewering the Ariel, one of the ship's boats, ahe broke from her davits by the drawing of the stern bolt, accidentally throwing everboard Thos. Lee, of New York, severely injuring him by the fall. A shipmate, who was in the water at the time, made every exertion to save the drowning man, but in vain. The Constitution, in beating up to the anchorage, by the way of the southern passage, endocuntered very squally weather, carrying away the main-sail, foretopeal, fore-topgallantsail, spanker and jib, also broke the cross-jack yard, compelling the ship to go to sea, reaching Porto Grande (St. Vincent,) two days after, in a crippled condition. The Dale was expected daily at Perte Praya, from Madeira, whither she had gone to recruit the health of the office officers and crew. The Marion was on the south coast, to be at Porto Praya by the lat of December, expecting her relief.

Court Calendar—This Day.

Sernanz Court—Circuit.—Nos. 219, 950, 1132, 1131, 11 1 1138, 1141, 1144 to 1150.